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ORIGINAL DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Water: its History, Characteristics, Hygienic, and Therapeutic Uses.

By Samuel W. Francis, A.M., M.D.,
Of New York.

(*Concluded from page* 99.)

INHABITANTS OF WATER.

This great (universe) the Ruler Soma has brought forth, when the Water's bosom as yet conceals the gods—
Benfey, Samaveda, 239.

When we take into consideration the vast extent of many oceans, the certain knowledge that a country is not able to sustain inhabitants if devoid of rivers or destitute of lakes; and that no region has, as yet, been visited by wandering man, whose bosom does not pulsate with the spring of life, the throbbing earnestness of innate health, the great importance of this broad expanse of latent wealth may be sufficiently appreciated and properly discussed. There are now, trusting to the mercy of the wind and wave, not less than two millions of sturdy seamen; or, by calculation, one sailor laboring for every five hundred who remain on land. This, however, does not include the hundreds of thousands who seek comfort, relaxation and a change of scene, in crossing watery abysses and enjoying placid lakes. Three hundred thousand mariners are the representatives of English customs, while an equally large amount perform the duties of American requirements.*

Though possibly there may exist a paucity of minds, as feeble as their numbers, that form conclusions relative to proper distribution and great changes in localities that would ameliorate the hygiene of depraved humanity, truly does a well read scholar† state that "the physical geography now claims that the particular arrangement of seas, continents, mountains, and rivers, which the earth has received, is the very best that could be given for the purpose to which the earth is destined. As the Divine wisdom is manifested in the order and adaptation of the parts of the human body, of animals, and of plants, so there is an object in the particular shape the continents have been made to assume. As we have our circulation of the blood, so there is the circulation of the earth's great heart of fire, the circulation of the waters, and the ventilation of the air." This is philosophically true and sympathetically correct:

Though the weight of the ocean:

"Boundless, shoreless, and sublime,
The emblem of eternity."

is variously determined, and L. M. Trask, of Connecticut, states that there is much more pressure near the bottom than the surface; causing the water to be much denser, the exact amount cannot properly be ascertained. By inductive reasoning and parallel conclusions, the pressure, at the depth of six miles, is stated to be seven thousand tons to the square inch, and, when within one hundred feet of the surface, some forty-three pounds. Now, as the atmospheric pressure is fifteen pounds; and it is positively known that a greater part of the fish, seined or otherwise caught, live within thirty feet of the top of the water, be it lake or ocean, sufficient data may be obtained for the purpose of assisting those desirous of investigating beds of rivers and the byways of certain tides.

The various methods employed for artificial respiration, under water, are eminently interesting and peculiarly singular.* The physiology of the process has been beautifully unfolded by Prof. Farady. And even as far back as the time of Aristotle, we find rude forms of temporary diving bells, used to facili-

* The whale fishery is followed by some 20,000 men.

† Prof Doremus.

* See suggestions of Dr. Halley on the art of living under water, published in the Phil. Transactions.

tate detention under water. This has been disputed by Beckman, himself excellent authority, who asserts that the first diving bell used in Europe was that of John Taisner,* 1664, Nuremburg. Lord Bacon made mention of certain processes of the kind,† and many others have pursued the subject, but like all flying machines, as yet, the *principle* has neither been discovered nor acted upon.

It has been the gradually accepted opinion of qualified travellers that water has been, for years, decreasing to a very serious extent. This fact is strongly endorsed by Dr. Livingstone, whose opportunities for observation have been only equalled by his powers of discrimination. Mr. Wilson maintains that portions of Australia, Africa, Mexico, and Peru, are being subjected to a gradual solidification of the aqueous‡ vapor which in time will render the localities unfit for the present race of human beings. As a seed for future meditation, this thought will bear analysis, and, ere long, demand investigation. Singular indeed is it that over one hundred years ago a similar view, slightly modified, was promulgated by John Ray, F. R. S.

Another fact, not generally understood by the star-gazers of modern inaptitude, is of itself a field for minute study and careful comparison, namely, the simple certitude that oceans make rivers—not that rivers form the mighty seas. The certain and astonishing truth alone, that for every fountain of water, pleasing cascade and meandering river, on earth, there is a representative in the clouds above, and§ "this river is drawn up out of the sea, more than a mile high; is always full of water, and is more than twenty-five thousand miles in length," will produce no little sensation in the breasts of those who readily comprehend and acknowledge what they never thought of when reflecting that the Mississippi and deep Amazon poured forth their contents into the purse-strings of receiving harbors. Again, as it ever must be, man is forced to bow before the universal agency of the great ruler of mechanical nature—The Sun!

If there exists anything like perpetual motion, it is the vast change of water in the circle of its duties; now a rivulet till borne forth to the swelling surge; now elevated to the brilliant clouds; once more returned to mother earth at the finale of its round. An article of a protracted length, might, with facility be penned, referring to the influence of rain,* its composition, the utility of falls of snow, and even what is owed by gentle flowers to the all-pervading dew. The present must, however, be employed concerning this most beautiful provision by stating, on the authority of science and statistics the amount of rain that falls in various countries. The remarks of Dr. James Hutton, 1787, commented on and exemplified by Sir John Leslie, regarding the fall of showers as occasioned by a sudden chilling of the air, though apparently childlike, when fully understood, were unknown two hundred years ago. As seen by some of the old theories, the principle of action was far from the correct idea now fixed as an undeviating law. Humboldt discovered that less rain fell as man approached the north.

The following is the table which seems, from the best researches, to be as comprehensive as it is significant. "The mean annual quantity of rain, and the number of rainy days in various parts of the world."

Eastern Hemisphere.

Between Lat. 45° and 50° N.	Depth of Rain. Inches.	No. of Rainy Days.
British Islands, - - -	32	156
Western France, - - -	25	152
Eastern France, - - -	22	147
Central and N. Germany, -	20	150
Hungary, - - - -	17	111
Eastern Russia, Kasan, - -	14	90
Siberia, Yakoutsk, - - -	?	60

Western Hemisphere.

Between Lat. 41° and 43° N.	Depth of Rain, Inches.
Cambridge, Mass., - - - - - - -	38
Western Reserve College, Ohio, - - - -	36
Fort Crawford, Wisconsin, - - - - -	30

Between Lat. 38° and 40° N.	Depth of Rain, Inches.
Philadelphia, Penn., and Lambertville. N. J.,	45
Marietta, Ohio, - - - - - - - -	41
St. Louis, Mo., - - - - - - - -	32†

The above statistics must prove of interest to those desirous of forming some estimate of the impartial beneficence of Divine plenitude.

* Schott's Technica Curiosa.

† Novum Organum lib. jj.

‡ "The General and Gradual Desiccation of the Earth and Atmosphere," by J. Spotswood Wilson.

§ Bibliotheca Sacra.

* Lord Bacon, though possessed of business duties, that, of necessity, required the closest study and the occupation of his very leisure, was so imbued with the fondest love of rural comfort and the choicest flowers that he has not inappropriately been styled, by Cowley, "Nature's Lord Chancellor." Not merely cognizant of all the latent beauties of suggestive exhalations and subdued harmonious melody; but even while the elements sweat drops of water, and the thunder groaned, he drove out bareheaded; and exclaimed with a poetic zeal, that "he felt the Spirit of the Universe upon him!"

† New American Cyclopædia: Ed. by G. Ripley and C. A. Dana.

But:

"O what an endless work have I in hand
To count the sea's abundant progeny!
Whose fruitful seed far passeth those on land,
And also those which won in th' azure sky.
For much more eath to tell the stars on high,
Albe they endless seem in estimation,
Than to recount the sea's posterity;
So fertile be the flouds in generation,
So huge their numbers, and so numberless their nation."*

It were useless to go into an elaborate account of the inhabitants of the mighty deep. Many of the remedies most efficacious and universally administered, together with a vast variety of luxurious comforts, come from the water-bed of earth!

As on land so on the sea, the nearer the naturalist approaches the tropics, the greater the variety of animals, the more numerous the race, and the more certain are they to be found in given latitudes. By a careful investigation, the result of many years of study and statistical reasoning, the following tabular account of the distributions of fishes has, at length, been formed:

SPECIES OF FISHES.

Locality.	Mollusca number.	Fishes number.
Mediterranean sea, - -	600	444
British sea, - - -	400	216
Scandinavian sea, - -	300	170

This, of itself, will serve to indicate the effect of a few degrees upon life, as modified by surrounding temperature and tidal influences.

Might we not fancy that the expressive feature of the ocean betrayed an innate consciousness of its great treasures.

"The innumerable smile."

"ποντίων τε Κυμάτων
ἀνήριθμον γέλασμα,"†

seems, with simplicity, to state that beneath

"The clear hyaline—the glassy sea,"‡

abundant representatives, created for most useful purposes, await the mandate of a higher power to contribute no small mite towards man's improvement, nay, pleasantest associations. Though Clawdius could call in $12,000,000 and Seneca philosophize while enjoying $17,500,000; though Lucullus expended at one gastronomic feast $100,000; and the lascivious *Cleopatrafied* Anthony drank off a pearl solution that was valued at $400,000; though Appius committed suicide because his fortune had decreased to $400,000, and Crœsus maintained that no man was wealthy who could not support an army at his own expense; though Esopus exhausted ingenuity and $400,000 to serve up but one rare dish, and Caligula strove hard to equal those who had set base examples of the kind, not one of them possessed the priceless comfort of sound knowledge, such as even those in this country at free academies enjoy, or school girls soon acquire by a few years study.

For the great sagacity of panthers that are able to count up as far as five, on their own claws, and thereby form a proper estimate of their respective strength, compared with man or other foe, we find a fish, beneath the water, that loads up, presents, takes aim, and fires off the contents of a gun with rarely failing accuracy. The flying fish returns, with ease, the feat of swimming birds, and the eel, the representative of snakes, with poisonous fangs on land, unfolds electrical phenomena most useful to the naturalist, and abundantly suggestive to the meditative student. Can we sufficiently enter into the deep happiness of Humboldt, and the zealous Bonpland, who passed hours in the closest study of this rare power of repelling foes.*

In proportion to the wonderful facility of birds, in elevating themselves, may we see in fish the swimming bladder that expells the air and aids descent. How beautiful the mechanism!

The lily of the valley is not more delicate in its simplicity of growth and systematic development than are the diminutive inhabitants of regions shut out from contaminating air, and known among the learned as marine algæ. While plants, on land, cannot live long without the aid of water's nourishment, sea-growths exist where land is not perceptible, and seem not, from their full size, to miss the kind assistance of accommodating land. For the sudden onset of the stealthy tiger and his lacerating claws, the sword-fish deals as dreadful wounds with equal power and forbidding energy. For the sheep, whose simple method of avoiding danger by the gentle and accommodating wool, the cuttle-fish surrounds itself with a mysterious cloud that may be entered, but the object is not touched. While reed-birds satisfy the epicure, a dish of white-bait cannot fail to call forth plaudits from the richest gourmet in the country. Can plover, or the much prized wood-cock call forth pleasanter emotions from

* Spenser.
† Prometheus Vinctus.
‡ Milton.

* To those enamored of this subject the philosophical experiments of Matteuci abound in wise axioms and sound deductions.

the healthy stomach than fresh salmon or the spotless turbot? The very fire-fly, whose golden head sails through the silent darkness with such eloquent suggestions of a fairy-land existence, and inspires thoughts as pure as innate innocence, cannot produce more lasting beauties than the phosphorescence of the scintillating water that receives, with sparkling ecstacy the sailing vessel, and glows with appreciative warmth at the approach of any messenger from man.

> Beyond the shadow of the ship,
> I watched the water-snakes:
> They moved in tracks of shining white,
> And when they reared, the elfin light
> Fell off in hoary flakes.*

The elephant, whose mammoth size astounds humanity at what rude creatures may produce, does not furnish with its ivory and other agencies, as many aids to usefulness as the sperm-oil, whale-bone, etc., from the monster of the deep. The delicacy of the graceful and most agile deer, or the swift-footed movements of the fond gazelle; the proud strut of the radiant peacock, with argus-eyed effulgence, do not awaken in the poet's heart emotions that can equal the soft dying beauties of the dolphin, whose rich exit from this world, like the rainbow's birth, is first—

> ——"A heavenly cameleon,
> Brought forth in purple, cradled in vermillion,
> Baptized in molten gold, and swathed in dun,
> Glittering like crescents o'er a Turk's pavilion."

Such scenes as this fill the imagination with the noblest thoughts:

> "Call spirits from the mighty deep,"

and harmonize with the excelling principles of purest intellects.

Is it nothing that men like Marsigli and Bonnet, Landsborough and Ellis,† Pallas and Linné, dedicate most precious years but to explain a coral reef, and carefully detect the erring writers who maintained the vegetable life of what is now acknowledged to be classed with little animals?

The account of J. D. Dana's expeditions, and its bearings on the coral reefs, awaken pleasurable views and genial cogitations:

> "We wandered where the dreamy palm
> Murmered above the sleeping wave;
> And through the waters clear and calm
> Looked down into the coral cave,
> Whose echoes never had been stirred
> By breath of man or song of bird."‡

Certainly one cannot but acknowledge that—

> ——"Life in rare and beautiful forms
> Is sparkling amid those bowers of stone."

For mercury, the master-spirit of a healing art, whose miracles surpass the records of all other remedies, extolled by Chisholm, praised by Ogden, Miller, Mitchell, Farriar, and Pearson, and in days, softened by the distance of receding time, abused by Zaccheus,* Acosta,† Hildanus,‡ and Ramazzani,§ with hundreds more, we find at first in the "Kelp" birth, next more effectually obtained, that panacea for specific troubles, Iodine, in various forms. This great athlete is from the realms of Neptune. Who cannot bear strong testimony to the undeviating power of its tonic properties: its kind assistance in the "polite arts," and its all-pervading influence on those whose troubles are of long duration? Its name and nature are the same—in-violate.

Curtois and Brera—Guy Lussac and Davey, the indefatigable Magendie, and the thoroughly appreciated Manson, energetic Christison, and well-versed Lugol, reputable O'Shaugnessy, and learned Pereira; Coindet, of Geneva, and Thomson with Bayle, have passed years in the careful detection of its virtues, the innate qualities of its secret wealth.

As an equivalent for the many emetics now employed, the scilla maritima, or sea onion, is possessed of properties of the most inestimable value. Nor is it confined to this one specification of duty: as an expectorant it has few equals, on account of its direct stimulating action on the mucous membrane of the lungs;‖ and from the regions in which it is found, obedient to the provisional laws of nature, it may be obtained not only on the coasts of France, Spain, and Italy, but along the most of the far extending mediterranean shore. According to the matured judgments of Drs. Home and Blackall, squills, employed as a diuretic, stands forth pre-eminent and lasting.

The Japanese state that in the sea, which laves their islands, a large fish may be caught, the end of whose bony tail is an infallible cure for the deadly sting of a poisonous serpent.¶ Moreover, as an equal in characteristics to the

* Coleridge's *Ancient Mariner*.

† Essay toward a Natural History of the Corallines, and other like marine productions of the British Coasts. See, also, Johnston's British Zoöphytes.

‡ Thulia, J. C. Palmer, U. S. N. Expl. Exp.

* Paulus Zacchæus Disert-Metallurg. Morbif. Rational Systemat., Vol. 2, Ed. 1729.

† Discourse on Quicksilver, of the Mynes and Worke, and what is required for that subject. Purchas his Pilgrimes.

‡ Observat et curat. Chirurg. cent. V.

§ De Morbis Artific, p. 491.

‖ Any doubt as to this statement will be removed by a careful attention to the labors of Vogel.

¶ Golownin's Japan, Vol. III.

best remedy on land, the "Todo Nœvo," a small fish covered with hair, with four feet, like a hog's foot, is possessed of an oil, which is said to be a specific for ebriety.*

There are few subjects as interesting, in a scientific point of view, as that of the reproduction of oysters. The peculiar election of what seems, at first, to possess not even vegetable instinct and the vast importance of this delicious "bivalve" may be better comprehended by a conscientious perusal of the writings of M. Coste, and a study of the experiments made by Captain le Roy, at the head of the Bay of Poulmic.

In speaking of the curious fish, found in dark regions on this continent, a writer of immense originality and untiring industry, makes use of the following remarks relative to their blindness: "The general law of absorption operates universally, without the aid of any specific stimulus; while it is clearly otherwise in respect to nutrition, and especially in regard to certain organs. The voluntary muscles become emaciated from want of the stimulus of exercise, &c. We see, therefore, how it happens that fishes with and without eyes may exist together in subterranean caverns as extensive as that of Kentucky; the latter inhabiting the dark regions, while the former exist in springs near the crevices of the cave."†

To form but a slight estimate of the impossibility of receiving into the minds' eye the gigantic scale of the plans of deified creations, of which

> "All are but parts of one stupendous whole
> Whose body nature is, and God the soul."‡

it cannot fail to be an interesting fact, stated on the sound authority of Professor Owen, that *in one drop of water five hundred millions* of beings, of the genus, *monas crepusculus* may be found! Who is there that can grapple with this limitless idea?

As an indication of the profound adoration of water in the ancient times, I quote the collocated result of an indefatigable scholar.§

"The Nile and Ganges have their sources in Heaven.[5] Plutarch calls the Nile the 'outflowing Osiris.' Osiris is the Sun. Osiris is the 'creative intellect,' called Amon.[7] Ossiris is the celestial Nile[8] Ap, the Sun, in Italy, Egypt, etc., is Ap, 'water,' in Sanscrit; Nero, Anar, is the Sun; Nereus, the old water-god. The waters of Heaven were diffused by the seven solar rays, and the seven rivers."

This one thought, carried on for numberless chapters, though unfolding the most curious and antique theories of a creator, would not conduce much for the present in bringing to a close the labors of modern metaphysicians. To descend once more to earthly details, we would suggest that leeches, besides being of great value in their special qualifications, as meteorological animals, are eminently important as a guide to knowledge. Though Dr. Vitet denies this statement with warmth and ability, there are others who maintain that excellent suggestions have been derived from the labors of this singular creation. In reading an account of the "Natural History of Man,"* one cannot help being struck by the singular fact that those nations, which live on the borders of oceans, seas, and lakes, possess more intelligence, and exhibit greater marks of industry than the races of men who inhabit inland regions. The thought is sufficient for suggestive analysis. Enough now has been said to point out some of the vast utilities of water in its various capacities. Thoughts, facts and singular phenomena have been laid bare to view, that some of the more salient points might be the better comprehended, and as faithfully appreciated by perusers, who require only an exotic germ to cultivate it in seclusion and attend to its revealings. One more characteristic may be brought before the ethical philosopher: it is in metaphor. Water, as a moral teacher to the thoughtful, I enter on the hinted subject with becoming brevity. Though adhesive and tenacious in its vast susceptibility to nearly all surrounding objects, yet cohesive in itself and equally united to the last. Though submissive to the power of heat, and subservient to the rapid changes of the influencing temperature, it has a limit, and then leaves the lucre-loving world to soar aloft, by that sure innate principle of an expansive purity, to gaze, with clouded aspect, on the earthly labors of abused creations. Though readily displaced, by its accommodating character, and yielding to the persuasive force by natural inducement, it can permeate, by pressure, even

* Koempfer's account abounds in curious anecdotes and superstitious traditions.

† The Institutes of Medicine by Martyn Paine, A. M., M. D., LL. D.

‡ Pope.

§ The Spirit History of Man—Cosmogony, by S. F. Dunlap. A work that requires a mind of the highest cultivation to comprehend its deep significance.

5. Wilson, Rigv. 1,248, 249; Duncker, ii. 370.

7. Kenrick, 1, 303; Cory. 283.

8. Champollion, Egypte, 131.

* By James Cowles Prichard, M.D., F.R.S., M.R.I.A.: London, 1855.

the close-fitting pores of gold, and, with facility, support the largest platform ever based upon its well-known strength. While cheering on the quiet labors of the feeblest floweret, it can, with equal ease, shake man with a convulsive terror at its threatening water-spout. At the approach of winter it locks up canals, and covers earth with a most beauteous mantle, the best intervening agent against frost; again, as a return for seeming cold indifference to human wants, prepares a latent reservoir to cool the summer's draft.

Light troubles, like young pebbles, dropped into a murmuring stream, splash and make noise in sad proportion to its shallowness. The ripple reaches every side; and, as the rivulet flows on, continuous noise reminds one of the little obstacle. But the deep anguish of an injured nature, or the weight, resulting from a misplaced confidence, is more like the massive rock that tumbles from a lofty height, and causes one convulsive, thundering upheaving, while descending low. As deep the water, so the wound—and nought remains as evidence that still the same dead load lies hidden in the soul stirred element! While the chance observer can remove the pebble, traces even of the presence of this rock cannot be fathomed!

A death-bed scene, to him who suffers, is intensest anguish to an unprepared soul. The brain, however, gradually dulls, be-clouded by approaching dissolution; and all speculations are immediately lost in mazed conjectures. Though repentance comes and the heart yearns, the senses now refuse to work, and thought is vanquished by enfeebled intellect. Death by violence, of course, is sudden, and the sharpened faculties that still act on, are centred with a deadly hatred, on the face or purpose of the sinking man. Thoughts of future rise not up before the angered mind or frightened victim of displeasure; and a present state absorbs the all-remaining consciousness.

Death as a punishment, be it hanging, the sure guillotine or the protracted agonies of torture, by its own engrossing circumstances, causes the distressing moments to take years upon themselves, and thus exhaust imagination. Death by carbonic acid gas is only a sure muffled exit from receding ties. The affected brain is mystified by the slow, noxious fumes; the mind is rendered torpid, and intelligence is atrophied by chemical destruction. But, when a victim is now borne along the course to Charon's craft, through deep and stormy waters, or submerged beneath the quiet lake; be it the man of laden years or buoyant youth, be it the wily craftsman or the gentle spirit of a fragile female—the honored Christian or the tempting gamester, one and all are permanently stationed face to face, with actions of their own, and deeds that cannot be struck out! The still calm voice of conscience finds itself reflected in distorted truthfulness—the poisoned soul, at length freed from contaminated human ties, confronts the man of sin, now languishing beneath a ghostly, sickening despair. The last opportunities of doing good, and the safe chance of thus undoing evil, flit, with haggard eyes by the doomed spirit soon about to leave this earth, and meet above the judgment of undeviating rectitude. The injured friend now comes once more, with tenfold threatenings, to take from gasping death itself one ray of hope, and point with fearful meaning, to most exquisite revelings of a shameless conduct! Pure and nndefiled religion not beheld for years, assumes a form no longer recognized beneath the garb of charity, but as witness in the final fiat; and light, and truth, and grace and love, while spreading shadows over those devoid of faith, come forth with radiant brilliancy to welcome innocence and pristine excellence, now washed forever clean in the pure fountain from the living Waters!

"O Life! to Misery how drear,
To Bliss how short dost thou appear!"

Case of Encephaloid Disease of the Kidney, Removal, &c.

By Charles L. Stoddard, M.D.,
East Troy, Wisconsin.

On the 4th of June last, I was invited to assist Dr. E. B. Wolcott, of Milwaukie, in the removal of a tumor from the abdomen of Mr. J., aged 58 years. On examination we found that the patient was a tall, anæmic looking man of a peculiar cast of countenance, indicative of of serious organic disease. He stated that he was of healthy parentage, and had good health until the appearance of the tumor six years before that time. The physician, in attendance stated, that from the first appearance of the disease, some irritation of the urinary organs had existed, but what the deposits were we were unable to learn, as no reliable chemi-

cal or microscopical evidence was presented. It was probable, however, from the statements made that an albuminous deposit was the principal one.

We found the tumor to be large, filling the right hypochondriac region, and pressing the abdominal parietes forward about two inches from their natural level. On palpation it was evident that it was semi-solid, having a pedicular attachment, apparently to one of the sulci of the liver, with a more extensive attachment to the posterior parietes.

Having no reliable data to form a diagnosis other than the present state, after duly considering the patient's anxiety, and his deprivation of general health, we concluded that an operation offered the only chance of ultimate recovery; at the same time we stated to the patient and his friends, that the operation was a serious one in his state of health. Our conclusion was, that we had here a cystic tumor of the liver, pressing on the kidney and producing irritation sufficient to account for the albuminous deposit. After the administration of chloroform, Dr. Wolcott proceeded to the removal of the tumor by making an incision diagonally across it down to the peritoneum, which we found to be very much thickened and slightly attached to it. He next made an incision into the tumor, which we found to be an encephaloid mass. He then proceeded to free it from its extensive posterior attachments, after which he found that the superior attachment was a very dense cord-like structure, about an inch in circumference, and apparently proceeding from the posterior part of the liver. Carefully tying the pedicle, he severed this connection with the knife and, after removing foreign matter carefully from the abdomen, brought the edges of the wound together with common sutures and adhesive strips, which was the only dressing used. After the patient was free from the effects of chloroform, morphia and camphor were administered in sufficient quantities to quiet irritation and produce sleep.

The tumor weighed about two and a half pounds, and on incising it freely, we found undoubted evidence of its being a kidney, from a small portion of its upper portion, which had not degenerated, showing the tubules and a portion of the pelvis of that.

The patient lived fifteen days after the operation, and died, apparently from exhaustion, caused by the great amount of suppuration which necessarily followed.

Medical Societies.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE BROOKLYN MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Doctor Daniel Ayres, President.

October 22d, 1861.

DEGENERATIVE OSTITIS, INVOLVING THE TARSO-METATARSAL ARTICULATION—EXTENSIVE RESECTION OF THESE BONES—SUBSEQUENT AMPUTATION OF THE LEG.

Dr. Daniel Ayres exhibited a portion of the leg and foot which he had removed from a gentleman, twenty-seven years of age, a merchant by profession, who came under his care in June last. He apparently possessed a good constitution, unimpaired by hereditary or acquired disease.

Four years previously he sprained his right ankle, but was not confined at home at that time by the accident, although the foot was a long time troublesome, and liable to become stiff and lame on rising, and attempting to stand or walk. These symptoms, however, usually subsided after exercise, but a slight permanent enlargement over the outer portion of the dorsum of the foot never disappeared.

About one year ago, in getting out of a railroad car, he again sprained the same foot very severely, and has remained thereby completely disabled, and a constant sufferer from pain.

This pain was at first confined to the plantar and internal surface of the foot, extending from the base of the great toe to the heel, and latterly shooting up the leg and thigh to the groin, where the superficial lymphatics were slightly swollen and tender. The character of the pain was deep, gnawing and constant; greatly increased by firm pressure over the plantar region, or any attempt to extend the arch of the foot. It was, moreover, greatly aggravated at night, and accompanied with reflex muscular contractions, so that he has not enjoyed a night's rest without anodynes, nor borne any weight upon the foot since the last accident, and now only moves about by the aid of crutches.

The muscles of the affected limb were atrophied and flabby; the veins dilated and varicose. The circumference of the right foot, over the dorsum, exceeded that of its fellow by one inch. Its cutaneous capillaries were notably increased in size, number and prominence, whilst the temperature was permanently elevated. No abscesses had ever formed, nor was there any fluctuation perceptible, and only slight œdema of the superficial connective tissue.

Since last January he has been subjected to a variety of treatment. At an early period, rest, and the occasional application of leeches, followed by repeated blisters over the dorsum pedis, and the internal use of iodide of potassium with narcotics, constituted the orthodox plan which was pursued for three months, but without benefit, beyond a transient mitigation of pain for a few hours. Under empyrical advice he permitted strong electrical currents to be passed through the limb twice a week, for nearly a month. At first, the pain was assuaged

for half a day, but even this effect soon ceased to be obtained. He then submitted to a more potential disciple of the same class, who fomented the foot with hot herbs for six weeks, and applied a series of caustic issues to the leg, but without better results. When convinced that he was steadily losing ground, he sought relief by a surgical operation, his aspect betraying the suffering and exhaustion of serious disease.

The diagnosis arrived at, after a careful examination, was, that the larger portion of the second row of metatarsal bones, together with the proximal extremities of the outer meta-tarsal, were so involved in disease, that amputation was justifiable and would, probably, be ultimately necessary. It was, however, determined to make an extraordinary operation, and, if possible, remove all diseased tissue, with a view to test the power of local reparation. This was carried into effect on the 3d of June, by an incision along the outer border of the foot, and another at right angles over the dorsum, which allowed the free application of the gouge and cutting forceps. So far as the osseous tissue was found softened, it was freely attacked, until, the heads of the three outer meta-tarsal, the entire cuboid, external and middle cuneiform, together with portions of the internal cuneiform, and scaphoid were removed. The remaining substance appeared firm and healthy, and no deposits of pus were encountered.

The free capillary hemorrhage was arrested by strong per sulph. of iron, sponge, compress, roller, cold and position. Decided mitigation of pain immediately followed the operation, comfortable rest being obtained by the moderate use of anodynes, and these were required but a few days. On the fifth day, the cavity suppurated, and the sponge was readily removed; after which, the wound was daily syringed with a solution of the permanganate of potassa, granulations springing up meanwhile, with marked rapidity. Several superficial cellular abscesses forming in the neighborhood readily healed after being opened. A leather splint upon the inside of the leg, prevented the anterior portion of the foot being drawn in the opposite direction: and the patient's general condition was promoted by tonics, and liberal diet.

Towards the latter part of July, everything seemed progressing in the most satisfactory manner, and he was sent into the country. There he continued until September free from pain, and gaining rapidly; all his wounds ceased to discharge, and, in fact, had cicatrized. Very soon afterwards, the sole and inner surface of the foot became puffy, red, and tender; and simultaneously the old pain was renewed. An incision gave vent to a very little healthy pus, and a considerable amount of semi-translucent, reddish, and soft material, resembling detached granulations. This affording no relief, he declined farther attempts to save the foot, demanding amputation, which was accordingly performed in the inferior third of the leg. An inspection of the parts removed, shows the space left by the resection perfectly closed by firm, fibrous material, and the ends of the metatarsus, replaced by new osseous tissue; whilst in the portions of bone left behind, and in the head of the astragalus, the degenerative process was rapidly advancing; and yet there was no suppuration, but the same soft, medullary tissue before described, occupied the whole plantar region.

Dr. Ayres observed, that the special interest of the case was, that it had agitated the merits of *resection*, as applied to this compound articulation; a question upon which unsettled views were entertained, and some confusion prevailed. This was in part attributable to the variety of elements entering into each individual case, but more especially to the undigested, imperfect, and therefore unreliable statistics hitherto accessible, upon the subject. The acknowledged difficulty, of estimating in advance, the *extent* of disease in any given case, was the great obstacle to an accurate appreciation of the conditions under which conservative operations might be employed, with a prospect of success. There could be no question, that general experience would justly exclude from such efforts any case, where all or nearly all the tarsal bones were compromised by disease. With equal propriety, experience led us to anticipate good results, where only one or more of the first tarsal row were involved; for even entire sacrifice of the calcis, with portions of the astragalus, had repeatedly furnished good and serviceable results.

When, however, disease commenced in the second row, involving (as it was apt to do) the contiguous metatarsal, then, the propriety of resection over amputation in some of its forms, was constdered by many to be very questionable.

Bearing upon this point, it had been ascertained, that the isolated position of the bones, within these limits, and their intimate synovial connections, not only favored the diffusion of disease among them when unmolested; but that, where these synovial avenues had been necessarily opened in the removal of a portion of the bones, morbid action was wont to spread rapidly until all, in the second row at least, were destroyed.

In harmony with these facts, experience seemed to point out, that our best prospect of success had been sacrificed to ultra conservatism; and that in fine, nothing short of the entire removal of the second row, together with so much of the first, and metatarsal, as exhibited unsoundness, could furnish a reliable basis for the reparative process.

This proceeding was readily accomplished through a free incision on both sides of the foot, connected, if necessary, by one across the dorsum. The anterior portion of the foot required proper support during the process of healing. This having been satisfactorily accomplished, it became a pertinent inquiry, how far a foot thus mutilated, was capable of subserving the processes of locomotion. There was no apparent reason, why, it should not be superior to the stumps furnished by the operations of Syme and Pirogoff, without being subject to the criticisms brought against that of Chopart. It might be objected, that the original arched-conformation of the foot was thereby lost, but even with this drawback, the interesting observations recently published by Professor Szymanowski of Helsingfors,* encourage the conclusion, that such a limit cannot be equalled in utility, by any substitute of art.

*Archiv. für Clinische Chirurgie von B Langenbeck, Billroth & Gurtt. Berlin, 1861.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

PERISCOPE.

Weekly Summary of American Medical Journalism.

By O. C. Gibbs, M.D.
Of Frewsburg, N.Y.

QUININE AS A PROPHYLACTIC IN MALARIOUS DISEASES.

Whether quinine be, or be not, a prophylactic to intermittent fever, and probably to remittents, is now a very important question, as we have now several hundred thousand men, most of them unacclimated, about to march into a region where deadly miasms are more or less rife.

In the Chicago *Medical Journal*, for July, one of the editors expresses the opinion that it may be so for a time. He says: "The system rapidly becomes accustomed to quinine, as to other cerebro-spirants, and inordinate doses are readily borne and necessary after tolerance is once established by use." The objection he would make is, that "we should be despoiled by this practice of a valuable remedy." He basis his statement on "fifteen years of practice in a highly malarious western district." If this be true, it is certainly a serious objection. We will consider this further on. In the *Lancet and Observer*, for July, one of the editors says: "If there is one fact better proved than another, in regard to the action of medicines, it is that quinine is a prophylactic to intermittent fever, and all its dire sequelæ." . . . . "We believe that all troops, stationed or marching through malarious districts, should be compelled to take from four to six grains of quinine daily."

Dr. H. W. De Saussure, of South Carolina, published in the Charleston *Medical Journal and Review*, for July, 1860, a very able paper upon this subject. We shall quote largely, because of the importance of the general diffusion of the facts upon the subject. He says: "It is well known that during the years 1840–41, the English government sent an expedition into Africa, to explore the sources of the Niger river. The expedition consisted of two vessels, well manned, and fitted with all the appliances and comforts that skill could devise, for securing the health of the men about to undergo a prolonged stay in a region well known to be deadly to the white man, from the severity of its malarious diseases. The disastrous results of that expedition are well known. Of the two ship's crews, none escaped more or less severe attacks of fever; few returned alive to England; and the expedition was necessarily abandoned, after two years of struggle with the fearful endemics of the swamps of that deadly river.

More recently, in 1854–'55, the British Government determined to renew the effort to explore the Niger. They again sent two vessels, to remain in the river during two years. The results of the second expedition were very different from those of the first. Few of the officers or crew were attacked with fever, and in those attacked the disease was slight and easily controlled. The apparent cause of this striking difference in the health of the crews of the two expeditions, was believed to lie in the free and daily use of quinine by the officers and men of the expedition, from the time of entering the river until they left it. The quantity administered to each individual daily was five grains, which was required to be taken in the morning, before exposure on the decks of the vessel. Under this treatment it was found that no attacks of fever occurred during the time the vessels were in the river. As soon as the vessels left the river, which they were obliged to do by the annual fall of its waters, the quinine was discontinued. Some of the crew were then attacked with fever, which, however, speedily yielded to renewed doses of quinine, showing that its continued use during several months, had not destroyed the susceptibility of the system to its remedial action. In consequence of the occurrence of the cases of fever, the quinine was resumed as a daily allowance, and no other cases occurred. It was finally ascertained, as the result of several subsequent trips up the river, that it was necessary to continue the use of quinine for fifteen days after prolonged exposure to the malarious influences of the river, in order to ensure entire immunity from attacks of fever. It is, moreover, stated that during the time the quinine was being administered, the general health of the officers and men improved much, and their general aspect was that of men of robust health."

Here there is nothing said of increasing the dose. That quinine is a prophylactic is certainly proven. That it does not injure the health, and that it does not loose its prophylactic, or curative powers, by repetition, seems to be also proven. For, if by discontinuing the remedy, an attack occurred, the curative powers "were as marked, as if it had never been used."

Dr. De Saussure relates another case that involved still longer time. We quote:

"An overseer agreed to take charge of several rice plantations in one of the sickliest regions of rice culture, undertaking to spend the summer months on one of the plantations. He made no inquiry as to the health of the one chosen as his residence; it was selected from its convenient locality. When warned of the danger of his residing there in summer, he said he would never have the fever. His own con-

fidence in his capacity to resist malarious disease seemed unlimited. The result fully justified this confidence. He lived ten years or more in that neighborhood, spending every summer on the plantation, varied only by an occasional visit to the healthy pine land, where his family resided during the summer. He visited his rice fields without hesitation at any hour, day or night, that his business required. He never had an attack of fever during that time. I saw him after he had been there several years; a finer specimen of robust health it would have been difficult to find.

"It was ascertained, on inquiry, that it was his habit to take quinine daily, during the summer, before leaving his house; the quantity he did not know, for he never weighed it. He died finally of apoplexy, which any one who saw him would have predicted as the probable cause of his death. His entire and complete confidence in his ability to resist fever in so malarious a region, is strong evidence that he had been in the habit of using it, and was well satisfied of its prophylactic virtues. This case, in conjunction with the statements from the officers of the Niger expedition, would appear to prove that quinine may be used under exposure to malarious influences for an indefinite period, not only without compromising the general health of the individual or injuring the constitution, but as surely protecting the system from the inroads of malarious disease."

And we add without any stated necessity for increasing the dose, to maintain that curative action, which makes the remedy so valuable, or of keeping up its prophylactic powers. Dr. De Saussure's article, at this time, ought to have been republished entire. Our space, however, was quite too limited. We would like to make one other quotation, embracing a case, and the doctor's remarks upon the same.

"Two white men were employed, during the summer, in a malarious region, at the head of one of the rice rivers—the one to superintend plantation work, and the other to bring produce down the river on a coasting vessel. The latter was of course much exposed in his passage down the river in the midst of a rice growing region. He was urged to take quinine daily; he did so during the early part of the summer; but, judging his health perfectly good, and himself free from fever, he discontinued its use, considering it no longer necessary. He was soon afterwards—within fourteen days—attacked with a mild form of malarious fever, this attack was easily cured by quinine; he took it daily during the remainder of the summer, and escaped any further attacks of fever. The other man who was employed on the plantation, had lived all his life in a city; was entirely unaccustomed to malarious influences, and therefore, according to all our reasoning, a fit subject for a severe attack of the disease. His occupation, moreover, required him to be exposed late in the evening and very early in the morning, being frequently wet up to the waist from the dews, lying on the rank vegetation, through which he had to wade in passing to and from his business. During the early part of the summer he went to reside in an unhealthy pine land, occupied by some overseers with their families. Warned of the unhealthy nature of his daily occupation, and the risk incurred at summer residence, he took, daily, five grains of quinine before he went out of the house, and endeavored to persuade those around him to pursue the same course, which they refused to do, By August he was the only individual in the settlement who had not had an attack of fever. Satisfied of the immunity secured to him by the quinine, he determined to return and live on the plantation, as being nearer to his business. This he did in the latter part of August, and there he remained during the rest of the summer and fall, without suffering from fever. On the morning, in November, on which the first hard ice occurred, he discontinued the quinine, thinking it no longer necessary; ten days after, he had a pretty smart attack of remittent fever, which, however, yielded readily to a few large doses of quinine.

This case is one of great importance. A man accustomed to city life goes into a malarious region, resides among those who, from long habit were in a manner acclimated to its influence, and, as far as our experience teaches, less liable to its inroads, he alone, under the daily use of quinine, escapes the fever; all the others, including women and children, are more or less severely attacked. It serves further to confirm the experiences of the second Niger expedition. They found it necessary to continue the use of quinine for fifteen days after exposure to the sources of malaria. This man ceased its use the very first day he saw ice on the ground; in ten days he had an attack of fever. His entire exemption during the summer, almost certainly proves that had he continued his prophylactic doses a few days longer he would have entirely escaped. Another fact, illustrated by this case is, that the daily use of quinine *does not so habituate the constitution to its effects, as to deprive it of its remedial powers in the treatment of remittent fever.* This man was as easily cured by quinine as if he had never taken a dose of it before. It may also be stated that he went into the country in very feeble health; during the summer he became strong, robust, and perfectly healthy. In the same neighborhood in which this man lived, there came three men to reside with a view of collecting turpentine; they were advised to take quinine daily, as the region was a very unhealthy one. Two declared themselves accustomed to a malarious atmosphere, and declined to do so; the third consented, and used it daily during the summer. The three men lived in the same house, went to and returned from their occupations together, and were in all respects similarly situated. The man who used quinine daily was perfectly well during the

whole summer; the others who did not, had very severe attacks of fever."

In reports from recent African expeditions, the following items occur in the *Lancet* for December 1858.

"The last accounts of Dr. Livingstone are more cheerful; the general health of the party was good; a free daily use of quinine having warded off the pernicious fevers of the country."

In a still later number, the following:

"Accounts have been received from both of the African expeditions—the health of Dr. Livingstone's party continued good; Dr. Barth's had suffered severely from fevers of the climate. This difference is attributed to the free and daily use of quinine, by the former, with which they were liberally supplied."

Since writing the above, we notice that the *American Medical Times*, for October 19th, mentions the fact that the Army Sanitary Commission have issued a circular upon this subject, drawn up by Dr. Wm. H. Van Buren, of New York, in which many facts like the above are given. We have not seen this circular, and had we known the fact before, perhaps this article would have been curtailed somewhat. We however believe, our readers, as well as army surgeons, should be acquainted with the above facts.

The editor of the *American Medical Times*, after acknowledging the fact in regard to the prophylactic powers of quinine as above, makes the following very appropriate remarks:

"The importance of this circular at this critical period in the history of our volunteer army can scarcely be over-estimated. The great majority of the surgeons of these forces have been little accustomed to the treatment of malarious diseases. The season has arrived when the progress of the war is to transfer large bodies of troops directly into regions where malaria exists now in the most concentrated form. Unless some prophylactic is employed, these malarious fevers will decimate our army in six months, and render it impotent against an acclimated foe. Happily it is in our power to shield those who go bravely forth to meet the exigencies of war, from one of those consuming forces which threaten the Northern soldier in his progress southward, viz, malarious diseases."

We here conclude the subject, though much more could be said, and promise our readers a greater variety next week.

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ON PUS-CELLS IN THE AIR AND THE AEROSCOPE.

During an epidemic of purulent ophthalmia, which occurred at the Foundling Hospital, near Prague, Dr. Eiselt had the opportunity of proving in his own person that infection may take place in other ways than by contact. As the attending physician, he took every precaution to protect his own eyes from any contact with the matter proceeding from the children, which it was easy for him to do, inasmuch as the syringing and cleansing of their eyes was performed by the sisters of the establishment. Still, being engaged in the hospital for several hours daily, he perceived smarting and heaviness of the eyes, followed afterwards by reddening of the conjunctiva, with an œdematous state of the portion lining the eyelids, and a considerable secretion therefrom. The same symptoms were observed in all persons who had care of the children. Some of the nurses became seriously affected from getting matter in the eyes, and others they knew not how. The inconvenience, as regards the author, was checked by the use of weak stimulant collyria.

He asks, How comes it that acute purulent ophthalmia may thus be excited without any contact, in the common sense of the word? and refers, in explanation, to Pouchet's recent experiments with the aëroscope as described in the *Comtes-Rendus* for 1860. Professor Purkinje constructed a similar instrument for his use. Its principle consists in forcing a determinate quantity of the air to be examined over a glass-plate smeared with glycerine, which detains the particles of dust and microscopic structures for examination. By means of this instrument, (for details of the structure of which we must refer to the paper,) the air was examined which existed in a ward containing thirty-three children suffering from acute purulent ophthalmia, accompanied by abundant secretion. Pus corpuscles were at once detected in the portion of air examined; and this fact the author considers supplies the rational explanation of the propagation of the disease without apparent contact with the secretion from the eyes.—*Wochenblatt, No.* 13.

APPLICATIONS IN ECCHYMOSIS OF THE EYELIDS AND CONJUNCTIVA AND CILIARY BLEPHARITIS.

M. Déval, in ecchymosis of the eyelids, causes this solution to be applied several times daily:—Water, 125, chlorhydrate of ammonia, 2, and tincture of arnica, 4 parts. In subconjunctival ecchymosis he directs a mixture composed of tincture of arnica 2 parts, chlorhydrate of ammonia ½ to 1 part, water 60 parts, to be applied externally to the eye and dropped into it. In ciliary blepharitis the crust must first be removed by small cataplasms, or tepid decoction of mallow, and then the following ointment should be freely rubbed, for from three to five minutes every evening, into the free edge of the eyelid: Red oxide of mercury, acetate of lead, of each 6 grains, camphor, 3 grains, fresh butter, 1½ drachms.—*Bullet. de Thérap.*, vol. lx. p. 268.

TREATMENT OF HÆMORRHOIDS.

M. Herpin strongly recommends the following ointment for non-bleeding hæmorrhoids, as

facilitating the reduction, retention, and resolution of the piles. It is composed of from 1 to 3 parts of tannin to 15 of cold cream. When the stools are difficult and the hæmorrhoids much developed or multiplied, only one part of the tannin should be used, and if much irritation is produced, a still smaller proportion. After smearing the tumors with this ointment they should be immediately returned. Very shortly afterwards we may observe a constriction of the anus and a dryness of the mucous membrane impeding a re-issue of the piles. The patient must rest, sitting or lying down, for a short time after the reduction. A necessary condition of the cure is to return the tumors with the aid of the ointment *immediately* after their prolapse; and this means must be continued, notwithstanding the diminution of the size of the piles, until they return of themselves after evacuations, and do not come down in the intervals. The constipation which favors their continuance must be treated by all means which relieve dyspepsia, and by the use of fruits. Of habitual purgatives Dr. Herpin has no great opinion, but of this class of medicines he gives the decided preference to the following:—Washed flowers of sulphur, calcined magnesia, and sugar of milk, equal parts. A teaspoonful, more or less heaped up, is to be taken daily (so as to get one or two stools), or every other day, for a week. *Ibid*, vol. lx. p. 395.

THE BLIND AND THE DEAF AND DUMB.

A general report on the deaf and dumb, the blind, and the institutions for their education which exist in France, has recently been sent in to the Minister of the Interior by the Baron de Watteville, the general superintendent of the benevolent institutions of France. There are now in the 89 departments of the Empire, 21,576 deaf and dumb, amongst which 12,325 are males, and 9,251 females. The largest average number is found in mountainous regions, as in the high Alps there is one deaf and dumb person in 419, while in Paris there is only one amongst 4.694 inhabitants. There are 47 institutions for the education of the deaf and dumb, of which the two largest are administered by the State. The blind are more numerous than the deaf and dumb, as the last census puts their number at 30,214, amongst which are 6,469 males, and 18,745 females. The average number for the whole of France is 1 in 1,200 inhabitants. The largest institute for the education of the blind is that in Paris, which was founded in 1784.

RUPTURE OF THE KIDNEY BY RUNNING OVER.

A child, aged four and a half years, was run over by a cart, and died twelve hours after. Externally there was no mark of injury, except a broad suggilation of the right thigh, evidently due to the wheel. The abdomen, however, was tensely distended, and on opening it much fluid and coagulated blood was found therein. The right kidney was enveloped in a coagulum, and was found to be transversely ruptured, the organ being completely divided into two parts. This case is highly interesting in a juridical point of view, as so great is its rarity that Casper has not met with a similar instance, and the remarkable fact of the injury being unattended by external injury.—*Berlin Medical Zeitung*, No. xxvi.

LEUCORRHŒA AND ULCERATION OF THE CERVIX UTERI IN PREGNANCY.

In order to test the accuracy of M. Cazeaux's assertions that ulcerations of the cervix uteri are met with in seven-eighths of pregnant women, M. Charrier instituted a careful examination of one hundred indiscriminately as they offered themselves to his notice. The following are the conclusions of the memoir he has compiled on the subject:—1. Leucorrhœa precedes and gives rise to ulceration of the cervix. 2. The congested conditions and processes of hypertrophy taking place in the pelvic organs are the causes of this leucorrhœa. 3. At first a physiological condition, it may become morbid under the influence of a bad state of health. 4. Nearly two-thirds (72 per 100) of pregnant women have leucorrhœa. 5. Nearly eight-tenths (56 of 72) of these subjects in leucorrhœa have ulcers of the cervix. 6. Of the 56 women, 41 were multiparæ. 7. For the treatment we should confine our attention to the general condition, giving mild aperients and preparations of iron and remedying disorders of the digestive organs. Local treatment would frequently induce abortion.—*Bull. de Therap.*, vol. lx., p. 69.

ON THE COMPARATIVE INCREASE OF THE TWO EXTREMITIES OF THE LONG BONES.

As the result of experiments upon animals, M. Ollier comes to the conclusion that the humerus increases more by its upper than by its lower extremity, while the radius and ulna increase most by their lower extremities. In the lower limbs the relations are the reverse of this, for the lower extremity of the femur increases more than the upper, the reverse of this being the case with the tibia. These results are of some consequence as regards resection and amputation in young subjects. Thus resection of the articular extremities at the elbow does not induce a very considerable arrest of development, since it is at their opposite extremity that the bones which constitute the

joint chiefly increase. In the knee such arrest is much more to be feared, as it is at the ends forming the articulation that the tibia and femur most increase. For the same reason, and the proportion taken into account, excision of the shoulder exposes to more shortening than that of the hip, and excision of the wrist more than that of the ankle.—*Comptes-Rendus, Med. Gazette.*

THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORTER.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1861.

A NEW ERA IN MEDICAL EDUCATION.

Despite the vigor and earnestness with which the importance of thorough preliminary education of the student in medicine has been urged, but little progress has been made. The more prominent schools of medicine have lengthened the term of their lectures, added to their teachings the facilities of clinical instruction and have made their requisites for graduation more stringent. Grave doctors, assembled in council to consider the interests of the profession, have unanimously resolved that the standard of medical education ought to be raised; and have gravely recommend to the medical schools to take action in the matter, and require a higher grade of qualification in those who sought the honors of the profession in their walls. Still it remains a notorious, yet a lamentable fact, that men, ignorant, not perhaps of minute anatomy, or physiology, or therapeutics, but of the fundamental branches of a general education, such as are essential to the position the physician ought to occupy in society, are every year permitted to enter the ranks of the profession from all our medical schools. To some extent, the evils of ignorance in medical literature are remedied. It is more difficult for the ignoramus to slide through all the forms of graduation without being discovered and exposed. But the great deficiency is found to lie still farther back. The farmer may drop his plow, the mechanic his plane, the shoemaker his awl, or the tinker his solder, put on his standing dickey, and enter the office of the family physician to commence his three years study. Some think an inkling of Latin is necessary to qualify the student to understand the names that distinguish the different organs of the body, but he soon learns from his preceptor the locality of the astragalus, the ulna, femur, and os frontis, and in a little time comes to talk learnedly of pneumonia, hydrocephalus, meningitis, tuberculosis, etc., without sacrificing time to acquire such knowledge. Others are impressed with the importance to the student of a knowledge of the branches of a common education, but if he be naturally shrewd, learn his lesson easy and well, and is determined to study medicine—*to be a doctor*—it won't do to repress the aspirations of the rising genius and so he passes on to the lecture room. And here, so that he present a thesis "of his own composition, correctly written, and in his own hand writing," with no bad spelling, or evidence (in itself we presume) of want of literary culture," and make no serious mistakes in his examination, which we will suppose to be very thorough, his ignorance of the fundamental elements of a good English education, will form no bar to his receiving the highest honors of the college; he will be sent forth with a diploma entitling him to rank and honor among the best and most learned of the profession. The evil to be remedied here, if evil it may be called, is not in the college, which has done its best to instruct him in all the branches of a medical education, and by whose instructions he has wisely profited, so much as it is in the physician, himself perhaps, ambitious to become a teacher, who permits a young man, confessedly an ignoramus in all that constitutes education in other branches, to enter thus unprepared upon the study of the healing art. Here arises the evil which clings to the student like an incubus, it may be in all after life, or which fits him only to become the rough, illiterate practitioner. And it is just here that the medical profession and schools of England now interpose their strong arm to arrest the ignorant, even at the very threshold of his professional aspirations, and require "that all students pass an examination in general education before they commence their professional studies." "This scheme, says Dr. Donkin, enjoins *first*, that every student commencing his medical studies from this day henceforth, must be registered under the provisions of this act. But to enjoy this privilege he must produce evidence of

having passed an examination in the arts before one of the examining bodies prescribed by the act. *Secondly*, that he shall commence and pursue his strictly professional studies for a period of four years after his examination in general education." This rule went into operation on the first of October ult., and the result of it was "a diminution of the number of students at the several schools," and the further result of it will be to induce those who desire the honors of our noble profession to become men; scholars, as well in literature as in medicine. The *Lancet* well characterizes the movement as "a new era in medical education," as "the first occasion on which an attempt has been made upon a large scale to bring the profession of medicine into closer alliance with literature, to make it in fact a *learned* profession." For a time no doubt the number of students will be greatly diminished, but the necessity of acquiring a thorough preliminary education before being registered as a student of medicine, will fit him better for the investigation of medical science, and enable him more intelligently to apply his knowledge in practical life. And such, also, would be the effect of the adoption of such a regulation in this country. The matriculants at our medical colleges would be greatly lessened, no doubt, but a high standard of professional proficiency would be disseminated through all the land, and the well educated physician would take the position in social life, for which such attainments would eminently qualify him. The profession of medicine would be indeed a *learned profession* and the physician received as a man of *science* as well as practical ability.

Is it objected that we have no central authority from which such an enactment could emanate, and which could enforce its authority? True we have none. Nor do we need it. The concentrated force of an enlightened public opinion among medical men in every portion of our country, aided by the action of our medical associations in every locality, would accomplish the object desired, quite as effectually as any enactment of a legislative body. If no physician would receive under his instruction a student who has not a thorough preliminary education, would it not effectually bar against him the door of legitimate medicine? Most assuredly. And the reform thus practically initiated would soon exhibit its desired results in bringing those only into the profession who are men of intelligence as well as science.

THE PROSPECTIVE FAILURE OF CINCHONA—ITS SUBSTITUTES.

There is something significant in the urgent efforts now being made to revive the use and test the virtues of arsenic in malarial fevers. For the past twenty years its febrifuge properties have been successfully tested, on an extensive scale in Bombay, and other parts of India, by the English army surgeons. And by these experiments, the fact has been established, that arsenic may be taken in large doses by patients of all ages and every race and constitution, with the happiest results in most cases of malarious fever. It has been given in doses of a grain or a grain and a half during the six hours preceeding a paroxysm, and it is affirmed that the failures in its use occurred most frequently when it was given most timidly. In some portions of England it is taken by the poor people, under the name of the "tasteless ague drop," and sometimes confirms a cure which quinine has left imperfect. Its abundance and comparative cheapness tends strongly to promote its use. The important objection to its administration, as an antiperiodic, is the risk of irritation of the stomach and bowels it produces when taken in over doses; but even this effect is diminished by the skillful combination of aromatics. The efforts to bring it into general use, will no doubt, also suggest a method in which it may be administered without incurring the risk mentioned. That arsenic has antiperiodic properties there is no doubt. The experiments of eminent therapeutists leave no room for question on that point. That it is as certain and as safe a remedy as quinine, or equal to it in virtue, no one, so far as our knowledge extends, asserts. Neither does any one anticipate that arsenic will ever supersede quinine. It is the impending scarcity of the latter, its large consumption, and the enormous

price required for it, that has led to the trial of arsenic, and other articles, as a substitute for it.

The event is not an impossible one that the supply of quinine may be exhausted. It is already, to some extent, limited. The district in which the most valuable species of cinchona (*cinchona calisaya*) grows, is an extensive one, but not indefinite. It is on the eastern slope of the Andes, from 19° south to 11° north latitude, though the forests of Bolivia and Caravaya, in Peru, are only the homes of the yellow variety, most used. The value of the bark stimulates, not to its cultivation, but to its destruction. Dr. Weddell says, of Bolivia, "where formerly one met with them (the cinchona) every where in the vicinity of villages, now to find a tree of a few decimétres in diameter, it is necessary to make a journey of several days duration into the bosom of the forests." Mr. Markham says during frequent journeys through various parts of the forests of Caravaya, he never met with an old tree, though young plants and roots of the calisaya abounded. Mr. Spence says that in the cinchona forests of Ecuador there does not remain a single plant large enough to produce seeds. The people of Chimboraro, we are told, on the other hand, are in the habit of breaking off young branches and sticking them into the ground, as if making provision for a new crop to supply the loss of the old. The attention of the British Government has also been directed to this subject for some years past, and the task, no easy one, of procuring from the cinchona regions, plants with which to form the nucleus of a cinchona forest, was assigned to Mr. Markham, and as the result of his labors 2,114 plants of the several varieties of this tree are now growing on the Neilgherry Hills, in India, in a wooded ravine near the Government Gardens, at Ootacamund. The plants generally, it is said, are in a very healthy and promising condition, some of them beginning to form branches.

And if we consider again the enormous demand there is for quinine, the same fact will also appear. The government of India alone expends fifty thousand pounds a year for it. How wide and extensive is its use as a specific in fevers, especially of malarious origin. And in fevers of other types, its use is also becoming more and more extensive, whilst as a prophylactic it is in the pockets of almost all travelers in malarial regions, and in the camps of many soldiers. This enlarged and constantly increasing demand not only exhausts the supply, but raises its value in market, so that almost fabulous prices are required and obtained for it, and in some localities it can hardly be purchased at any price.

These facts then show that the time may not be far distant, when the original sources from whence the supply of the best qualities of cinchona comes, will be exhausted. The efforts, therefore, to transplant it to other soils, and to cultivate its growth, should be carefully encouraged. England has taken the lead in this matter, and through her instrumentality the calamity to all civilized nations, and especially to our own—the failure of quinine—may be averted.

EDITORIAL NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Scarlatina by Mail.—The *Medical Times and Gazette* publishes the following case over the signature of James C. L. Carson, M.D., of Colerraine, Ireland. Miss M. A. K., whilst in a state of perfect health recived a letter by post from a friend in Dublin, conveying the intelligence that one of his children had just died of scarlatina maligna. The young lady carried the letter about with her and was very greatly affected. Next day she was ill, towards evening an eruption appeared on her face, and next morning she was completely covered with scarlatina eruption. She had the characteristic sore throat, and went through all the stages of the disease, even to desquamation of the cuticle. Her recovery was extremely doubtful for two days. There had not been a case of scarlatina in Colerain for months, and this was the only one for a long period. The facts he adds are all indisputable. This, like the case mentioned in the REPORTER for Oct. 26, was, no doubt, one of those sporadic cases which occasionally occur in almost every physician's practice. To account for their precise origin is a difficult matter, and yet that they are true cases of the disease is beyond a question. The idea of the

common people is that the disease is "sent," "goes in the air," which is quite as definite a solution of the doubtful origin as the verdict of the coroner's jury, "died by visitation of God." The idea of the contagion of scarlatina being conveyed by mail, and *immediately* affecting the recipient of the letter, is *prima facie* absurd and preposterous.

Sanitary Report.—Dr. W. J. H. Douglass, Associate Secretary of the Sanitary Committee makes an interesting report of the condition of the division under Generals Dix and Banks during the month of September, a brief abstract of which is here presented.

The camps are located generally upon hill-tops or hill-sides; two camps however, for military reasons, were placed upon a plain, and upon a clayey soil. Two-thirds of the regiments are supplied with one blanket to each man, but no winter clothing had yet been given out. Water is obtained most generally from good springs or from running streams. In the preparation of food there is a great improvement. The rations are more than enough. Fresh meat is supplied generally three times a week to all; potatoes occasionally, and desiccated vegetables a few times. In a few regiments, systematic arrangements have been made by which they are supplied daily with full rations of soft bread, and by another month every regiment will have the facilities for converting its flour into bread within its own camp. The men are in good spirits, singing and dancing constituting their chief recreation, and are rapidly improving in discipline. Fifteen regiments have been systematically vaccinated. Five surgeons have made requisitions for vaccine virus for their regiments, but have not received a supply. The surgeons are generally men of experience, and have passed a medical examination. Camp hospitals have been organized in all the regiments, and are generally well supplied with requisite instruments and necessary medicines. The deficiencies are in hospital furniture, such as beds, sheets, blankets, shirts, drawers, stockings, etc. A brigade hospital is in process of construction in Poolesville, under the management of Dr. A. B. Crosby. The diseases prevailing are the different forms of fever—typhoid, remittent and intermittent. Measles had mostly disappeared. Pneumonia began to appear, and acute rheumatism had increased in frequency. The mortality has been slight. Some regiments have lost some by disease. In one, a prophylactic for malaria has been used. (First Minnesota.) Quinine bitters were furnished to the surgeon of this regiment by the Commission, and he reports in general terms most favorably as to its effects. The region of country occupied by this regiment is low and wet, and subject to malarial fevers. A fair test of the prophylactic powers of quinine may therefore be made, and the results made known to the profession.

The Arctic Expedition.—The return of the Arctic expedition has already been announced, and the official account of the voyage, with some of the details and results, has been published. The expedition sailed from Boston, July 5th, 1860, and has therefore been absent little more than one year. On the 16th of August, 1860, they were at Upernavik; on the 21st at Tesswissak; on the 23d entered Melville Bay. At Cape York they found Dr. Kane's runaway boy, Hans, and took him, with his wife and child, on board. On the 27th they entered Smith's strait, and were met by a heavy pack, through which no practicable lead could be distinguished. Here they also encountered a heavy gale, which lasted several days, and obliged them to seek shelter behind Cape Alexander, September 2 they reached Littleton Island, and in the attempt to work up the Cape Hatherton, encountered a severe "nip," which injured the vessel so materially as to compel them to run down into Hartstein bay and anchor. On the 9th, they went into winter quarters in a bight at the head of the bay. The temperature had fallen to eighteen degrees below zero. Thick snow had been falling at intervals since August 25th. There stores were deposited in a house, built for the purpose, on the shore; the hold of the vessel was converted into a comfortable room for the men, and the upper deck was housed in with boards. This was in latitude 78° 17′ 4″ N., longitude 72° 30′ 57″ W., twenty miles further south than Dr. Kane's winter quarters. A survey of the harbor and the adjacent coasts was made; the fine pendulum apparatus constructed for the expedition was put up, and a full set of satisfactory experiments were obtained; the magnetic instruments were also placed in the observatory, and observations noted, a meteorological observatory was erected on shore, and records made from it three times a day. A re-survey of St. John's glacier, (so named by Dr. Kane) was also made. In October Dr.

Hayes ascended to the *mer de glace* and traveled eastward fifty miles. His greatest elevation was 4,500 feet, at which point the temperature was fifteen degrees lower than at the level of the sea. On the 22d of December, Mr. Sontag started on an expedition to open communication with the Esquimaux for the purpose of obtaining dogs, which resulted in his death from cold, having broken through the ice. Late in March Dr. Hayes made a preliminary journey to Fog Harbor, and visited Dr. Kane's winter quarters. During this journey the coldest temperatures of the cruise were recorded, one day 66½, another 68; their encampments were the snow huts of the Esquimaux. On the 4th of April, he started on an expedition, with sledges and dogs, to extend his observations still farther north, but meeting with hummocked ice of extraordinary thickness, through which he had to cut his passage, he only reached a latitude of 81° 35′ on the 18th of May, when his provisions being exhausted, he was compelled to return. This high latitude has been exceeded or equaled by no explorer, save Sir Edward Parry. The land was taken possession of by the usual forms, in the name of the United States, and the flag, used upon the occasion, has floated over the most northern known land on the globe. He reached his vessel on the 27th of May, and on the 14th of July put to sea, reaching Halifax on the 8th of October.

Thus another of the numerous and hazardous expeditions, to explore the regions of snow and ice in the Arctic regions, has returned, and the great problem of the "open sea" is yet unsolved, the mystery of the supposed "northwest passage" is yet unfathomed; bound up in the icy chains which the hand of man may never break. Yet, no doubt, invaluable additions to the different departments of physical and natural science have been made by Dr. Hayes. His field of research was new and more limited than he anticipated, but he has, no doubt, explored it faithfully, and in due time his researches will be given to the world.

Medical Colleges of New York.—The introductory address before the *College of Physicians and Surgeons* was delivered by Prof. T. M. Markoe. Subject—*The scientific gratifications which the practice of the profession holds out as a reward to its votaries.* In picturing the professional future of those who listened to him, he wished it to be understood that its rewards could only be realized by a diligent, unwavering, and self-sacrificing devotion to science, and their experience would always verify the truth of the motto, "*Palma non sine pulvere.*"

Prof. C. A. Budd delivered the introductory lecture before the New York *Medical College and Charity Hospital*, in which he alluded to the facilities which New York offers as a centre of medical education, and the school in particular with which he was connected; it having added the two chairs of infantile pathology and ophthalmic surgery, wanting in other schools; separated the chairs of obstetric medicine and surgery, and first exemplified in this city, the direct connection of Hospital and College.

The Address before the University Medical College was delivered by Prof. J. T. Metcalfe, in which he also pointed out the immense advantages which New York possessed for the didactic and clinical study of medicine. In her public hospitals there were constantly three thousand patients requiring medical and surgical aid, to the bedside of whom the student was always welcomed by the attending physician. Every facility was offered for this advancement, and diligent application was all that was necessary to make him an accomplished and successful practitioner.

Before the College of Pharmacy, Prof. J. M. Maisch, of this city, delivered his inaugural and the introductory. He considered the rank which pharmacy holds among the sciences. It combines science and trade in the daily duties of a single profession; it is closely allied to the healing art, not as the prescriber, but as the dispenser of remedies. He referred also to the practical duties of the Pharmaceutist, and reviewed the history of chemistry and pharmacy, which he said have been from time immemorial so nearly allied to each other, that they might be regarded as two foster sisters, reared by one common parent, medicine. Botany was also mentioned as an important collateral branch of pharmacy, and the student advised to cultivate it as the source of numbers of useful remedies.

Important.—We learn from the *Newark, N. J. Mercury*, that Mr. John J. Craven, of Newark, who was appointed Surgeon of one of the New Jersey Regiments, and against whose appointment the "District Medical Society for the County of Essex, N. J.," protested in a letter to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. A., (given in the REPORTER for Sept. 28,) accompanies the

Naval Expedition, attached to the staff of Gen. Wright's (Third) Brigade. From the same source, it appears that the Secretary of War, to whom a letter was recently addressed by some of the physicians at Newark, protesting against Mr. Craven's promotion, has sent a reply "commending him as having shown the highest degree of fitness for his position, and intimating that the opposition he has received, proceeded entirely from feelings of jealousy, rather than from a patriotic regard for the interests of the service."

We give the above statement as an item of importance to the profession generally.

Adulterations of Mustard.—In the *Lancet* for Oct. 26, we find the result of the analysis of thirty-three samples of mustard. Of these samples, *twenty-nine* were found adulterated with turmeric powder, wheat flour, and in one instance plaster of Paris. Only four were genuine, consisting wholly of the flour of mustard. These adulterations are more an imposition upon the purchaser than decidedly injurious. In our own country, we imagine, a like analysis would show a like disproportion between the pure and the impure article, though the adulteration would be oftener found to be corn meal and cayenne pepper, the latter to impart the strength which housewives so frequently complain of as wanting.

Vaccine Matter for the Army.—A member of the Board of Health of this city, desires us to notice the following statement relative to the action of that Board upon the subject of vaccine matter for the army. He says:

"Application was made to the Board by Surgeon-General Smith, in June last, for vaccine matter for the use of the Pennsylvania troops encamped throughout the State. As the ordinance confers no power upon the Board to demand from the vaccine physicians a supply of virus, except for the use of the physicians in the city, the Board were unable to make an *official* requisition on them. But they unanimously resolved, that the vaccine physicians be recommended to furnish gratuitously, as far as was in their power, vaccine virus for distribution among the staff of the army in Penn'a. The Clerk of the Board addressed a note containing a copy of the resolution to each of the twenty-four physicians, requesting them to forward to the Health Office as many vaccine crusts as they could spare for the above object. To this application there was immediately a generous and loyal response. The amount thus collected, quite a large supply, was handed over to Dr. Smith, with which, together with matter elsewhere obtained, he was enabled to have vaccinated about 11,000 soldiers."

We publish this statement the more readily, because it is the first semi-official information that has come to our knowledge, relative to the action of the Board of Health upon the subject, and because we are pleased to learn that the Board took action so promptly in reference to the matter.

Army Hospitals.—There are in and around Washington nine general hospitals for the sick and wounded soldiers. There is also a general hospital at Annapolis, more especially used for convalescents. The number of beds prepared in them all is less than two thousand. There are also tent hospitals in all the various encampments, all having many conveniences and comforts. The number of sick in these latter, considerably exceeds that in the general hospitals at Washington, and as the cold weather is fast approaching, it renders the demand urgent for larger and warmer accommodations. Accordingly orders have been given for the erection of new hospitals upon the most improved models, for the accommodation of five thousand patients. These plans, carefully matured by the sanitary commission, provide that each patient shall have 17,500 cubic feet of air space, and every comfort that medical skill can devise. The buildings are to be arranged in groups, each group to accommodate 200 patients, and each ward to be a separate building, all to be connected together by corridors. They are to be of wood and one story high, a height which is commended as one of economy, safety, and salubrity. Rumors are current also that the three residences originally built for Senators Douglas, Rice, and Breckenridge, have been rented for hospitals; and it is understood that a number of buildings have been rented in this city for the same purpose. The administration seems to be thoroughly alive to the magnitude of the great work before it.

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Painted Fish.—The Parisian correspondent of the *Lancet* says, that dealers in shell-fish are in the habit of making the ordinary grey shrimps resemble the more valued scarlet variety by painting their shells with red lead.

Correspondence.

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Meeting of the Obstetric Society—Discussion on Puerperal Convulsions—Report of Committee on Sulphuric Ether—Pathological Specimen of Strangulated Intestine—The "Free Hospital."

Boston, November 1, 1861.

Messrs. Editors:—In spite of the long period which has elapsed since my last letter, I am afraid my budget will be scantily filled, and with matters of general interest only, even then. Our city still remains more than usually healthy. To what causes our immunity from epidemic sickness, is due, I cannot definitely say, but the fact, nevertheless remains indisputable, that there has been a large diminution of deaths the past year, as compared with the average of years previous.

At the last meeting of the Obstetric Society, held Sept. 5th, in the course of a discussion upon a case of convulsions during labor, the fact came out, that every gentleman present had had one or more cases similar, within a short period, and upon farther discussion, the number within the knowledge of the reporters, proved to be so large as to altogether exceed the average. The use of ether was discussed quite freely. In the experience of some of the reporters, it had proved immediately and entirely efficacious, apparently abating the force and putting an end to the convulsions. Others had tried it in vain. This corresponds in the main with the experience related at a meeting of the Society for Medical Improvement, at which the whole matter of convulsions and their treatment came up for discussion. The evidence in favor of treatment was just about neutralized by the evidence on the other side, that no treatment seemed to be of any avail. Dr. J. Bigelow suggested that the success or want of success in treatment might be due to the fact that puerperal convulsions might be divided into two primary classes, the hysteric and those resembling epileptic seizures. The former would finally recover even if nothing was done, but when the attack terminated in coma, but little was to be hoped from ether, and the danger was much increased under any form of treatment. There can be no doubt that in this discriminating diagnosis, lies the whole matter of treatment, and that if the attending physician will at the outset, when he is first called, determine to which of these two classes the case in hand belongs, he will be spared much annoyance from the failure of remedies. In connection with these remarks I may say here, that in the course of a conversation with a very intelligent physician in Maine last summer, I learned from him that of more than twenty patients seen by him in puerperal convulsions, he had not lost one. His treatment I give. Immediate vesication was produced by ammonia or any other powerful agent, over the pit of the stomach, the cuticle withdrawn, and sulphate of morphia applied on the raw surface. Its effect was to still the convulsions and produce sleep, from which the patient awoke relieved. The rationale of this treatment I am not inclined to discuss. Of the fact, from my knowledge of the physician who made the statement, and his standing in the community where he resides, I have not the slightest doubt. It is well worth a fair trial, inasmuch as it does not prevent anything else being done at the same time; and, moreover, we all know how little we can confidently expect from any treatment. The report of the committee appointed some time ago to collect information upon the subject of sulphuric ether, as you have seen, made their report to the Society for Medical Improvement at the meeting held Oct. 14th. There was quite an amount of pleasant speaking, but the society by almost a unanimous vote adopted the report, and endorsed the conclusions of the committee. With regard to the minority report, in which the mixture of four measures of ether and one of chloroform, was advocated for army use on the ground of less bulk and more speedy action; the evidence upon which it was based proved upon examination to be the merest assertion. No well authenticated case of its use could be found, and the conclusions of the committee still remain unshaken.

A very interesting specimen of "strangulated intestine" was shown at the last meeting of the same society. The band of false membrane which caused the obstruction was very slight, so slight, indeed, as to cause surprise that the functions of the bowel should have been suspended. A very interesting discussion ensued, upon the treatment of these cases. The propensity of the attendants to urge forcible measures upon the physician in attendance was mentioned, and the danger of such a course, as especially indicated by the specimen on exhibition was very forcibly put. What are the facts? We have in the first instance, probably, irritation, or simple obstruction, indicated by pain. So long as this is left alone, although the pain may be severe, there will be less likelihood of inflammation, and its consequences, than if we irritate or force the peristaltic action of the bowels with drastic purges. But in spite of this the usual course is step by step from mild measures to more severe, until we go from calomel to croton oil as a last resort. How much better from the first to adapt our remedies to prevent all action of the bowels; to keep them perfectly quiet till every vestige of irritation being removed the natural action of the bowels comes on, and the affair is safely ended. The fact that because when there comes a free

dejection, the pain and irritation are over, seems to have laid the foundation in the mind that post hoc is propter hoc, and, therefore, if you can produce a discharge from the bowels you cure the disease. A more mischievous doctrine than this cannot be. The fear that harm may come from the bowels remaining quiet for so long a time, as is often necessary to accomplish the object, is groundless, upon the evidence presented during the discussion. In some of the cases mentioned twenty-one days elapsed without any dejection, and yet not the slightest inconvenience was felt.

Dr. J. B. S. Jackson showed a specimen of a single gall-stone, as large as a filbert, with many broken portions of others, which were taken from a person nineteen years of age at an autopsy. The case Dr. J. remarked was interesting from the youth of the subject. In the course of the discussion ensuing, Dr. White remarked that he saw a patient in one of the hospitals in Vienna, from whom five or six gall-stones had been discharged through a fistulous opening in the side.

It seems to be the fate of all great undertakings to be unfortunate, and our Free Hospital is taking its place in that class. There is some hitch between the original committee and the committee on erection, and the matter bids fair to give rise to some some spicy newspaper articles at least.

Trimount.

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

Nocturna versate manu, versate diurna.—*Horace.*

It may not be amiss, on this occasion, to speak at length concerning the peculiar characteristics of the professors of the various colleges. Beginning, then, with the University Medical College, we introduce to the consideration of the community, Prof. Valentine Mott, emeritus, relative anatomist, and gentleman in particular. Dr. Mott may be divided into two parts, viz: lecturer and clinical instructor. To sum up his special qualifications, I would say that calm and measured truths, together with anecdotes of interesting purport, and the essence of vast practical experience, reward those who have even practiced some thirty years, and drop in to once more attend a lecture from the triplex surgeon who combines the scholar, Christian, and philosopher!

Prof. Draper never says one word too much, or gives utterance to an obscure suggestion; chiselled certitudes expose the chemistry of his profoundest cogitations. He fascinates by brevity and strikes conviction with the force of practical elucidation.

Prof. Post, the conscientious and well-read expounder of the surgery of modern times, reads out his lectures with precision and a clear enunciation. His clinic, perhaps, can rank among the best in this wide continent. On diseases of the eye, a fondness for long names appalls the juvenile Hippocrates.

May these vivisections be forgiven!

Prof. Bedford, at all times wins the strict attention of his interested class. Desirous of imparting aphorisms, that must never be forgotten by the doctor in the lying-in room, he strives, and with an earnest zeal, exposes to those present the great disadvantages of too much confidence; the sad results of ignorance and want of self-possession. Entering the lecture room with a determination to impress upon the student's mind, say four important facts, Prof. Bedford varies the expressions, turns over the same thought, unfolds it in another light, and by the most amusing stories that bear with force upon the channel of ideas, permanently carries out what was desired. Q. E. D.

Dr. Metcalfe, with a most convincing smile and accents of melifluous agreeability, is most happy in his common sense deductions and the plain elucidation of the mysteries of heart disease or the sad ravages of phthisis. Dr. Paine exhibits herbs, and with the patience of an alchymist, seconds the "predisposing or morbific causes" of certain fomites. His lecture on tobacco far surpasses the vituperations of mistaken James, of old, and from its very strength of collocated verjuice should be preserved in print.

Prof. Van Buren seems born to teach, and with æsthetic eloquence, to chain the mind while tracing out the network of a plexus, or the anatomy of hidden parts. I have never listened to a more agreeable and eminently satisfactory expounder of any branch of medicine.

Gourmet.

NEW YORK OPHTHALMIC SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL AT NO. 63 THIRD AVENUE, N. Y.

New York, Oct. 31. 1861.

Dr. M. Stephenson delivered the introductory to his *tenth* course of lectures on "Operative Ophthalmic Surgery" at the above institution, October 26th, to a large and attentive class of medical pupils and professional friends. The lecture was received with marked approbation by the entire audience. At its close Dr. S. announced that there would be one lecture and three cliniques every week until the 1st March. It was also stated that the opportunities for clinical instruction were very great, as over one thousand cases, with diseases of the eye were prescribed for annually at the hospital.

Dr. M. Stephenson, Dr. J. P. Garrish, and Dr. Marcus, P. Stephenson, are the attending surgeons, who are always happy to see their professional brethren, especially those from a

distance who may be spending a few days in the city. The institution is open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 12½ to 3½ o'clock, P. M. Oph-

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PERCHLORIDE OF IRON AS AN ESCHAROTIC.

West Troy N. Y., Nov. 1861.

Messrs. Editors:—It is often difficult to remove the fungous growth arising from excessive granulations after the suppuration of carbuncles, &c. Recently having a troublesome case of this kind; after using the usual remedies such as nitrate of silver, sulphate of copper, without any benefit, I applied the perchloride of iron with complete success.

This powerful styptic will be found an excellent application in similar cases, and judging from its effects it might be used with good results in removing the remains of polypus after extraction with the forceps, in bleeding piles and in ulceration of the uterus.

I was led to make a trial of it in the case referred to, from a notice in a late number of the Reporter of its application in case of ingrowing toe-nail.

A. Shiland.

ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

Camp of the New Jersey Brigade, Seminary, Fairfax Co., Va., *Oct.* 26, 1861.

Messrs. Editors:—During the present unhappy war, one acting in a surgical capacity in the army, will be able to pick up many things of interest to the profession. Wishing, while I am obtaining information for myself, to contribute, if I may be able, a little to the stock of others, I will, with your permission, detail from time to time cases of interest that may come under my notice. At this time, I wish to narrate the results of a recent post mortem, in a case where death was caused by a gun-shot wound.

During a skirmish near our outposts, early in the present month, a party of men belonging to one of the New Jersey regiments, were attacked by some rebel cavalry, and one of their number instantly killed. The enemy were driven back, and the body recovered and brought to the hospital by some of his companions.

Post Mortem Examination—External.—On making an external examination we found, first, a bullet hole through the left wrist, on its palmer aspect, the wound at this point was small, much smaller than either of those which were noticed subsequently. Next a bullet wound was found in the left breast, over and penetrating the fifth rib, through which the finger could be passed into the cavity of the heart; and, again, another bullet wound on the right side, posteriorily, and under the right scapula. The wound in front was larger than that at the back, which last was larger than that through the wrist.

Internal.—On opening into the cavities of the chest and abdomen, the ball was traced through both ventricles of the heart, through the diaphragm near the crura of the liver, nearly to the right side where it re-entered the diaphragm, and passing outwards and upwards, made its exit under the scapula of the right side and through the eighth rib.

The points of interest to us were these, first, the irregular course of the ball, and next, as showing that the wound, at the entrance, in these cases is not of necessity smaller than that of exit. From this latter fact, however, we supposed the shot had been received from behind, (the more so as the posterior wound was not everted); and were not entirely satisfied until on enlarging the posterior opening the broken splinters of the rib were found directed outward. Our conclusion was this, and the testimony of his comrades confirmed it: That the soldier had his gun at a charge, and was about to thrust the man who was coming towards him, but the latter fired on him with a pistol, the ball passing through the wrist, then entering the chest, carrying with it a *portion of cloth*, passing through the heart, then downward through the diaphragm, on the lower surface of which the cloth was left; then along the liver, again upward and outward through the diaphragm, and out through the rib, muscle, and skin, as before stated. The wounds in the wrist were smaller than either of the others, because of the greater velocity of the ball, and the front wound larger than the posterior, on account of the cloth which accompanied the ball. Hoping you may think the case of enough interest to publish it, and that others may think it so.

I am,
Very truly yours,
J. D. Osborne,
Ass't Surgeon, 4th Reg., N. J. V.

LETTER FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Weather Statistics—Released Prisoners in the Hospital—United States General Hospital.

Fortress Monroe, Va., Nov. 5.

For the information of your scientific readers, I send some statistics of our fall weather here, taken from the Meteorological Register, kept at the Garrison Hospital. They form a continuation of the table sent under date of September 12th:—

Monthly mean of temperature at the hours stated:—

	7 A. M.		2 P. M.		9 P. M.	
Sept. 1861.....	.72	deg. Fahr.	77	deg.	73	deg.
Oct. 1861.....	65	" "	70	"	66	"
Sept. 1860.....	71.13	" "	76.10	"	70.70	"
Oct. 1850.....	61	" "	67 33	"	63.66	"

Highest temperature reached at the hours stated:—

September, 1861, 78 degrees on the 12th; 85 degrees on the 6th; 81 degrees on the 12th.

October, 1861, 80 degrees on the 6th; 86 degrees on the 6th; 80 degrees on the 5th.

Lowest temperature reached:—

September, 1861, 60 degrees on the 29th; 65 degrees on the 29th; 64 degrees 28th and 29th.

October, 1861, 50 degrees on the 24th; 58 degrees on the 24th; 55 degrees on the 24th.

Sept., 1861, daily mean of temp.,			74	deg.
"	1860,	" "	72.64	"
Oct.	1861,	" "	67	"
"	1860,	" "	64	"

Rain fell during Sept.,	1861,	1.55	inches.
" " Oct.	1861,	5.60	"
" " Sept.,	1860,	0.95	"
" " Oct.,	1860,	6.53	"

Days on which rain fell, in September, 1861, 4; in October, 1861, 4; in September, 1860, 2; in October, 1860, 6.

Range of thermometer early in November, 1861:—

	7 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 A. M.
November 1,	64 deg.	70 deg.	65 deg.
" 2,	65 "	70 "	64 "
" 3,	56 "	60 "	60 "
" 4,	54 "	60 "	58 "

Rain fell in Friday's storm, ending November 2, 1.40 inches.

The trees here of the same kind as those of the North retain their foliage almost a month later in this latitude this year than is usual there.

Of the Federal wounded prisoners, who arrived here on the 7th of October, and a part of whom remained in the hospital, only ten are now remaining. The others recovered so as to be forwarded to their homes; they departed about one week since. They recovered admirably here, with everything in their favor. It is expected that the last ten will soon be able to travel. Of the twenty-nine who stopped here, I learn that a considerable proportion are disabled for life in some respects. The injuries of the whole party were received at Bull Run. They spoke in high terms of the surgeon who has had immediate charge of them in the hospital here, Dr. White, of the United States army. A pleasing fact was the sympathy and kindness shown them by their brother soldiers, and the Seventh Regiment, New York Volunteers; and the Tenth Regiment, New York Volunteers, gave practical proof of their good will by contributing money, so that each poor fellow was presented with two dollars by the former, and two dollars and fifty cents by the latter.

The United States General Hospital is in admirable order. Ample preparations have been made for the supply of warmth this winter. Here the substantial, wholesome food for the convalescents, and the savory broths and refreshing drinks prepared for the sick, and the thick, warm blankets, show how well the sick soldier fares at Fortress Monroe.

The large, pleasant dining rooms for those able to go to their meals, and the fine large reading-room (the old ball-room of the hotel) are especially worthy of admiration. In the latter room are large tables, provided with the current newspapers, with magazines and books, which are fully appreciated and conned by the convalescents. Writing materials are also kept in this room for the patient's use. The convalescent wounded and sick, unable to leave their rooms, have papers and books brought them by their comrades, and their moments of pain and ennui are often shortened by the presence of the cheery, good old chaplain, Rev. Mr. Chivers, (for thirty years past Post Chaplain at Fortress Monroe.)

At this hospital are now 143 patients, of whom 57 are convalescent. Several of the sick of the fleet were left here. During the month of October, six deaths occurred at this hospital.

This is a very small proportion for the nearly three hundred cases treated during the month, and all the worst cases are sent to the General Hospital.

NEWS AND MISCELLANY.

Hospital Burned.—On Monday morning last, the E street hospital or Washington Infirmary, at Washington (D. C.) was entirely consumed by fire. Nearly one hundred sick and wounded soldiers were in the building, besides a considerable number of other government patients. They were all rescued with one exception, an aged woman, who, it is supposed, perished in the flames. The Sisters of Charity, under whose care, as nurses, the infirmary was placed, escaped with only the clothing they hastily put on, everything else was lost. Surgeon White lost all his personal effects, together with the books and papers of the Institution. The Assistant Surgeons Drs. Gooley and Pooley, lost nearly all their clothing. The whole energy of the people was concentrated in saving the patients. The loss to the Government at this particular juncture, when all its hospital accommodations are overtaxed, must be exceedingly heavy.

Dr. Washington J. Duffee, late Surgeon of the 29th Reg. P. V., has been promoted to the position of Brigade Surgeon, and is attached to Gen. Bank's division. The doctor rendered important services to the wounded at the battle of Balls Bluff, or, in other words, we suppose did his whole duty.

Health of Iowa Troops.—Surgeon Charles H. Rawson gives the following report of the sick and wounded of the Fifth Iowa Volunteers for September, 1861: Intermittent fever, 191; remittent, 27; diarrhœa, acute, 157; dysentery, acute, 12; tonsillitis, 3; indisposed, 75; pneumonia, 2; bronchitis, 12; pleurisy, 1; rheumatism, acute, 2; lumbago, 1; nephritis, 1; abscess of arm, 1; furuncule, 2; erysipelas, 1; cholera morbus, 1; debility, 2; conjunctivitis, 7; neuralgia in face, 3; odontalgia, 2; piles, 3; incised wound, 1; gunshot wound in hand, 1; hernia, 1. One death and one suicide.

The Sick Prisoners at Fort Warren.—In a recent letter from a visitor to this receptacle of political prisoners, we find the following items relative to the sick. There are about fifty now in the hospital. A few have the typhoid fever. Several have consumption, aggravated by a change of climate. Many have bronchitis and pneumonia, and the coughing is almost incessant. Some have the measles and mumps. They are all under the care of Dr. De Witt Clinton Peters, of New York, who was taken prisoner with Col. Reeves' command in Texas, and is now on parole.

Massachusetts Medical Benevolent Association.—The members of this association held their annual meeting at their rooms in Temple place last week. In the absence of the President, Dr. John Homans, of Boston, presided. The record of the Society, for the past year, was read by the Secretary, Dr. J. N. Borland, and accepted. The Treasurer, Dr. Francis Minot, reported that he had received during the past year, chiefly from assessments, the sum of $128, and interest amounting to $68 05. The balance from last year's account was $1,801 38. The whole amounting to $1,997 43. The amount expended was $9 66, leaving a balance of $1,987 77, which is chiefly invested in the Savings Banks —$99 being in the U. S. Treasury Notes, and $23 08 in cash, in the hands of the Treasurer.

The following gentlemen were chosen officers of the Society for the ensuing year: Dr. Geo. Hayward, President; Dr. Aug. A. Gould, Vice President; Dr. J. N. Borland, Secretary; Dr. Francis Minot, Treasurer; Doctors George Lyman, W. J. Dale, John Homans, George Hayward, Jr., and R. M. Hooper, of Boston, W. W. Wellington, of Cambridgeport, Anson Hooker, of East Cambridge, P. M. Crane, of East Boston, and B. E. Cotting, of Roxbury, were appointed Trustees.

Exercise for Soldiers.—Among the innumerable items with which the great naval expenditure is supplied, are several hundred *footballs.* These are intended for the exercising of soldiers when remaining in camps. Napoleon once asserted, that "the strength of an army is in the legs," and there is, perhaps, no better way of strengthening soldiers legs than by playing at football.

MARRIED.

TWEEDALE—STEVENSON.—At Fort Rowan, Canada West, October 24th, in St. John's Church, Joseph M. Tweedale, M. D., to Maria C., daughter of Wm. H. Stevenson, Esq., American Consul at Port Rowan.

CAMPBELL—ROGER.—At Greenock, Scotland, Oct. 17th, by the Rev. J. M. McCulloch, D. D., Francis Wayland Campbell, M. D., L. R., C. P., London, of Montreal, son of Rolla Campbell, Esq., Proprietor of the *Pilot*, to Agnes Stuart, youngest daughter of Alexander Roger, Esq., and granddaughter of the late Walter Washington Buchanan Esq., M. D., of "Bagatelle Villa."

KEATING—BORIE.—On the 7th inst., by the Rt. Rev. S. F. Wood, at the Episcopal Chapel, William V. Keating, M. D., to Eliza, daughter of the late J. J. Borie, Esq., of this city.

DEATHS.

RITZ—At Lewistown, Pa., on the 2d instant, at the residence of his father, Judge Charles Ritz, A. H Ritz, M. D., late of this city, in the 29th year of his age.

Answers to Correspondents.

Dr. H. F. W, Delaware.—Some years since we called the attention of the profession to the claims of Hydrangea Arborescens in cases of sabulous and gravelly deposits in the bladder; and in former numbers of the REPORTER several practitioners have recorded their favorable experience with it. The root, or a fluid extract prepared from it, can be procured in this city, of Parrish, 800 Arch street, or of Bullock & Crenshaw. Tilden & Co., New Lebanon, N. Y., also prepare a fluid extract. The following has been a favorite mode of preparing it:

R. Fresh root of Hydrangea Arborescens, 2 lbs.
Water, - - - 6 qts.

Boil down to two quarts, strain, and add one quart of honey, and boil down to one quart.

Dose—A teaspoonful twice or three times a day. Under the use of this remedy large quantities of sand and gravel have been removed from the bladder. It should have a more extended trial.

Dr. J. C., Ohio.—The Cincinnati *Lancet and Observer*, or *American Medical Monthly*, published in New York, are both excellent *monthly* journals. The *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, published *quarterly*, in this city, we can also recommend, The two former at $3 per annum, the latter $5.

Dr. A. B. D., Pa.—We repudiate the title "allopathic" as applied to any legitimate medical college. Such methods of distinction belong to quackery alone. There is a medical college at Cincinnati, which commenced its sessions October 29th. The Dean of the Faculty is George C. Blackman, M. D.

Dr. J. S., N. Y.—The REPORTER has been sent regularly to your address. The fault must be with your Post-Master, who has failed to deliver them.

Communications Received

Connecticut—Dr. D. Calkins, (all right); Dr. O. B. Griggs, with encl.; C. H. Wilson, do; Dr. C. B. Bromley; Dr. C. C. Foote, with encl.; Dr. A. W. Coates, with encl.; S. Thompson, with encl.; Dr. C. R. Hart; Dr. Joseph Palmer, with encl. *District of Columbia*—Dr. J. Roberts. *Delaware*—Dr. Shivers, with encl.; H. F. Willis, do. *Illinois*—Dr. E. C. Eilet, with encl.; J. M. Mack, do; *Indiana*—Dr. John Lewis; Dr. M. F. Thomas, with encl.; Wm. F. King, do. *Iowa.*—Dr. G. M. Staples, (2) (numbers have been sent); Dr. John Kerr, with encl.; M. Cousins, do; A. C. Taylor, do. *Maryland.*—Dr. W. J. Evans. *Massachusetts*—Dr. Proctor; Dr. Wm. E. Rice, with encl.; J. H. O. Kelly, do;

Drs. B. Hubbard, B. F. Green, N. Torrey, W. M. Herrick, N. E; Mutual Life Ins. Co.. with encl., Drs. J. L. Moore, D. B. Whittier. O. King, E. N. Jones, S. Richardson, A. Poole, A. G. Hall, (all right); O. M. Humphrey, (all right). *Michigan.*—Dr. M. H Raymond, with encl. *New Hampshire*—Dr. O. L. Bradford. *New Jersey*—Dr. G. E. Butcher, with encl.; R. Marshall, do; Drs. J. F. Shoemaker, Chas. Hasbrouk; Drs. Geo. F. Fort, with encl.; George Goodall, do; Z. A. Vandeventor, do; D. S. Reeve, do; J. Craig, do; J. N. Quimby, do; J. B. Burdett, do; J. Hornblower, do; J. E. Noble, do; L. W. Elder, do; G. W. Talsom, do; W. A. Durrie do; A. A. Lutkins, do; Dr. C. Shepherd; Dr. E. Jobs, with encl.; Dr. Jamison, do; J. A. Leighton, do; C. S. Haley, do; C. B. Jaques, do; B. Thornton, do; N. Jennings, do; J. F. Grandin, do; W. S. Creveling, do; J. S. Cook, do; —— Willard, do; Sickler, do. *New York.*—Drs. J. Cox, W. F. Underwood, G. K. Smith (2), A. R. Avery, A. R. Gipert, L. Shafer; Dr. Isaac E. Taylor, James Hadden, G. V. Saltonstall, W. McCready, R. S. Chapin, David Smith, W. Parker, B. J. Stow, H. Shepherd, J. W. Shepherd, J. J. Bassora, D. C. Enos, J. J. Barber, Horace May, J. J. Richmond, J. H. Burge, J. H. Talmadge, Wm. Gilfillan, L. Bauer, —— Simms, each with encl.; Dr. H. H. Nye, Dr. L. Riddell, with encl.; A. Cochrane, do; J. J. Richards, do; M. Bansinger, do; W. A. Townsend (2); Dr. L. Ellsworth, with encl.; Dr. M. Stowell; Dr. J. R. Craig, with encl.; S. S. & W. Wood; Dr. L. Moore, with encl.; Drs. J. Homberger, G. W. Barr, I. F. Scott, with encl.; M. Bevior, do; S. W. Danna, do; J. Flamery do; Otto Roten, do; C. F. Mermier, do; Willets, do; Cullen, do; J. H. Rooney, do; Dr. W. W. Fleming, Dr. J. M. Stephenson; Dr. S. E. Parsons, with encl. *Ohio.*—Drs. T. R. Simpson, with encl.; W. Brinkerhoff, do; A. F. Fischer, do; C. N. Kramer, do; D. S. Gans, do; Dr. A. C. Barlow; Dr. P. H. Clark, with encl.; J. Baggs, do; W. H. Taylor, do; Dr. H. P. Kay; Dr. F. Bigelow; Drs. Geo. Mendenhall, —— Jones; I. F. Capell; Drs. G. O. Hildreth, with encl., C. W. Fischer, do; H. Cooney, do; A. C. Barlow, do. *Pennsylvania*—Drs. McKinnon, with encl.; G. W. James, do; —— Curwen, do; A. K. Tyson, do; J. Gramer, do; J. W. Potter, do; A. R. Dill, do; P. S. Leisinring, do; J. McCarrell, do; H. U. Umstead, do; S. S. & R. S. Wallace, do; Dr. C. R. Early; Dr. Wm. Taylor, with encl.; S. H. Harvey, do; John Fay, do; Drs. A. G. Ely, S. M. Bleakney: Drs. W. H. Magill, with encl.; Charles T. Waage, do; William Herbert, do; B. F. Bunn, do; —— Longshore, do; J. B. Crawford, do; C. H. Budd, do; J. L. Atlee, do; C. K. Cowdrick, do. *Rhode Island*—Dr. A. G. Sprague, (all right); Dr. A. A. Mann, Dr. I. G. Davis, Dr. L. W. Briggs, with encl. *Vermont.*—Dr. George C. Briggs, with encl.; E. D. Warner, do. *Virginia*—Dr. R. K. Brown, with encl. *Wisconsin*—Dr. C. L. Stoddard.

Office Payments.—Drs. Stees, Filbert, Burpee, Hay, Spencer, Stein, Byington; Mr. Baeder, Drs. Glentworth, Walker, Welsh, Hummell, Miller, Evans, Tutt, Budlong, Updegrove, Atkinson, Schmœle, Kline, Chipman, Starkey, Riley, Lyons, Granger, Sutton, Remington, Gilliams, Brunon, Conrad, Roberts, Harper.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Of Philadelphia, for the week ending Nov. 2, 1861:

Deaths—Males, 126; females, 101; boys, 80; girls, 59—Total, 227. Adults, 88; children, 139. Under two years of age, 76, Natives, 172; Foreign, 36. People of color, 8.

Among the causes of death we notice—Apoplexy, 1; convulsions, 6; croup, 9; cholera infantum, 1; cholera morbus, 0; consumption, 33; diphtheria, 7; diarrhœa and dysentery, 5; dropsy of head, 4; debility, 11; scarlet fever, 14; typhus and typhoid fever, 4; inflammation of brain, 4; of bowels, 3; of lungs, 11; bronchitis, 2; congestion of brain, 6; of lungs, 3; erysipelas, 0; whooping cough, 0; marasmus, 8; small pox, 6.

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Of New York, for the week ending Oct. 28, 1861:

Deaths—Males, 220; females, 181; boys, 136; girls, 100. Total, 401. Under two years, 176. Natives, 280; Foreign, 121.

Among the causes of death we notice—Apoplexy, 4; infantile convulsions, 31; croup, 5; diphtheria, 4; scarlet fever, 14; typhus and typhoid fevers, 8; cholera infantum, 18; cholera morbus, 1; consumption, 63; small pox, 4; dropsy of head, 17; infantile marasmus, 26; diarrhœa and dysentery, 16; inflammation of brain, 14; of bowels, 8; of lungs, 24; bronchitis, 6; congestion of brain, 11; of lungs, 3; erysipelas, 0; whooping cough, 4; measles, 3. 212 deaths occurred from acute disease, and 45 from violent causes.

Of Boston, for the week ending Oct. 26, 1861:

Deaths—Males 30; females, 29. Total, 59. Under five years of age, 30. Natives, 44: Foreign, 11.

Among the causes of death we notice—Phthisis, 13; cholera infantum, 7; croup, 0; scarlet fever, 1; pneumonia, 2; variola, 0; dysentery 1; typhus fever, 1.

Medical Directory.

Under this head we propose to give such information in regard to the Medical Colleges, Hospitals, and Societies of the City as we may be able.

Pennsylvania Hospital, Eighth, below Spruce. Entrance on Eighth street.

Medical Clinic on Wednesday's and Saturday's, at 10 A. M., by Dr. Gerhard.

Surgical do., at 11 A. M., by Dr. Geo. W. Norris.

Jefferson Medical College, Tenth, above Walnut.

Medical Clinic on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 12 M., by Dr. R. Dunglison.

Surgical do., at 1 P. M., by Dr. S. D. Gross.

University of Pennsylvania, Ninth, below Market.

Surgical Clinic on Wednesday's and Saturday's, at 1 P. M., by Prof. Smith.

Dispensary Service every afternoon at 3 P. M., by Drs. Dunton and Hodge.

Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, 528 Arch Street—Clinical Lectures, daily, (except Sunday,) from 2 to 4 P. M., by Dr. Goodwillie.

Wills Hospital for the Eye and Limb.—Clinics, Monday and Friday at 12 M., by T. G. Morton, M.D.

Howard Hospital, Lombard street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth.

Clinical Lectures daily, at 12 M., 1 and 5 P. M. Monday and Thursday—Dr. Turnbull, at 1 P. M. Tuesday and Friday—Dr. Darrach, at 12 M.; Dr. Klapp, at 5 P. M. Wednesday and Saturday—Dr. Neff, at 12; Dr. Judson, at 1, and Dr. Morehouse, at 5 P. M. Monday and Thursday—Dr. Meigs, at 5 P. M. Tuesday and Friday—Dr. Atkinson, at half-past 3 P. M.